REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants thank the Examiner for the acknowledgment of allowable subject matter in claim 5.

Claims 1-4, 6-7, and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Takeda et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the cited reference is not "by another" as would be required to be a prior art reference under 102(e).

As attested to in the enclosed Section 132 Declarations, both the subject matter (Figs. 24-25 and 30, and paragraphs 172, 205, 208, 210, 212, and 233) of the cited Takeda reference relied on in the rejection, and the subject matter recited in claims 1-4, 6-7, and 32 were invented by the same inventors, Arihiro Takeda and Shingo Kataoka. Therefore, the cited portions of reference are not "by another," as required in 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Accordingly, the outstanding Section 102(e) rejection is respectfully traversed and should be withdrawn.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application, including claims 1-7, and 32, is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

Customer No. 24978

P:\DOCS\1117\68338\683816.DOC

January 17, 2005 300 South Wacker Drive Suite 2500 Chicago, Illinois 60606

Telephone: (312) 360-0080 Facsimile: (312) 360-9315

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

Josh C. Snider, Reg. No. 47,954

By